Attorney Docket No. 12400-045 Client Reference No. AFK 27596-WO-US

Appln. No. 10/551,626

II. Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraphs [0014], [0016], [0019], [0022], [0023], [0024], [0025],

[0026], [0027], [0035], and [0036], with the following amended paragraphs:

[0014] The present invention also provides a method of mounting an inflatable

curtain in position in a motor vehicle, the method comprising the steps of utilising

utilizing a fastener as defined above, inserting the end cap of the fastening fastener

as a frictional fit into a threaded bore and subsequent subsequently tightening the

bolt into the threaded bore.

[0016] FIGURE 1 is a diagrammatic side view of an air-bag in the form of a

so-called "inflatable curtain" when in the inflated condition;

[0019] FIGURE 4 is a side view of an end cap to be mounted in on the bolt of

Figure 3;

[0022] Referring initially to Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings, the cabin

of a motor vehicle 1 is illustrated showing, diagrammatically, an air-bag 2 in the form

of an "inflatable curtain". The air-bag 2 is divided into a plurality of substantially

vertical chambers or cells by seams provided within the air-bag air-bag 2, and the

 $\frac{\text{air-bag}}{\text{bag}}$ $\frac{\text{air-bag}}{\text{c}}$ is dimensioned to be received initially within a channel recess 3

which extends along the A post 4 of the vehicle, along the roof line 5 above the door

openings and part way down the C post 6. Air-bags of this type are well known.

HOFE GILSO &LION -4-

Attorney Docket No. 12400-045 Client Reference No. AFK 27596-WO-US

Appln. No. 10/551,626

[0023] Figure 2 illustrates part of the upper edge 7 of an inflatable curtain air-

bag 2, showing that the air-bag air-bag 2 is provided with a plurality of spaced apart

apertured lugs 8 and 9.

[0024] When the inflatable curtain air-bag 2 is to be mounted in the motor

vehicle vehicle, typically typically, the inflatable curtain is in the form of a package

subassembly, with the mounting lugs 8 and 9 protruding from the package. The

mounting lugs 8 and 9 are to be aligned with corresponding threaded apertures

formed in the A post 4, roof line 5, and C post 6 of the vehicle, and bolts are to be

passed through the apertures and the apertured lugs to be engaged with the

corresponding threaded apertures in the vehicle. It may be require considerable

manual dexterity for a single operative to hold the subassembly package air-bag in

position and locate the bolts appropriately.

[0025] Figures 3 through 6 illustrate a fastener which may facilitate the task of

the mounting air-bag 2 to vehicle 1.

[0026] The fastener includes of a bolt 10 which is provided, in the described

embodiment, with a separated end cap 20. The end cap 20 has radially outwardly

directed flanges adapted to effect a friction fit with a threaded bore dimensioned to

receive the threaded part of the bolt.

[0027] Thus, in using the fastener of this invention, each fastening fastener

may be swiftly engaged with a threaded aperture simply by inserting the end cap cap

HOFE GILSO &LION -5-

Attorney Docket No. 12400-045 Client Reference No. AFK 27596-WO-US

Appln. No. 10/551,626

20 into a threaded aperture. Subsequently Subsequently, the bolt 10 may be

tightened in the conventional way.

[0035] It is to be appreciated that when a fastener of the kind shown in

Figures 3-6 are is used to secure an inflatable curtain air-bag 2 in position, each

fastener may relatively easily be passed through an aperture formed in lugs 8 and 9

provided on the inflatable curtain air-bag 2 so that the end cap 20 become becomes

frictionally engaged within the threaded bore which is provided to receive the

appropriate bolt. There is no need to ensure that the threading on the bolt 10 is

aligned with the threading in the aperture and there is no need to rotate the bolt 10.

A simple axial movement of the bolt 10 will force the end cap 20 into the threaded

bore. The fact that the terminal flange 25 is of relatively small diameter will make it

easy for that flange to become aligned with the bolt 10. The gradual increase in the

sizes of the flanges 22 flanges 23 will facilitate the subsequent insertion of the end

cap 20 into the threaded bore. The chamfering 28 provided at the leading edge of

each flange 23 will facilitate a flexing of each flange as it is inserted into the bore,

thus ensuring a good frictional grip between the flanges and the bores.

[0036] When all of the fastener fasteners have been inserted in position in

this way, the frictional grip effected by the fastener fasteners to the threaded bores

provided in the motor vehicle will be sufficient to hold the inflatable curtain air-bag 2

in position. Using a spanner, and applying further axial pressure, the threaded

shank 12 of the bolt 10 of a fastening fastener may then be brought into

engagement with the threaded aperture and the bolt may be fastening fastened in

the conventional manner.

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-6-